

## **CLAIMS**

### **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An automobile door handle mechanism comprising:  
a door handle having a handle arm;  
a latch lever having a lever arm engaged with said handle arm for movement of said latch lever by movement of said handle;  
a lever axis about which said latch lever moves; and  
a rib on said handle arm and a protrusion on said lever arm restricting movement of said latch lever about said lever axis without movement of said handle.
2. The door handle mechanism of claim 1, said lever axis being substantially horizontal.
3. The door handle mechanism of claim 2, said latch lever having a cable arm and a cable slot below said lever axis.
4. The door handle mechanism of claim 3, said lever arm extending above said lever axis.
5. The door handle mechanism of claim 1, said lever arm protrusion having a rotational path in an unlatch direction, and said rib on said handle arm being disposed in said rotational path.
6. The door handle mechanism of claim 1, said latch lever having a cable arm on one side of said lever axis, and said lever arm extending toward said handle arm on a side of said pivotal axis substantially opposite said cable arm.

7. An automobile door handle mechanism comprising:
  - a handle mechanism base;
  - a handle pivotally connected to said base about a handle axis;
  - a latch lever pivotally connected to said base about a lever axis;
  - said handle including a handle arm;
  - said latch lever including a lever arm engaged with said handle arm for movement of said latch lever upon movement of said handle; and
  - said handle arm and said lever arm configured and engaged to inhibit rotation of said latch lever without movement of said handle.
8. The handle mechanism of claim 7, said handle axis being near one end of said base and said lever axis being near an opposite end of said base.
9. The handle mechanism of claim 7, said lever axis being substantially horizontal.
10. The handle mechanism of claim 9, said handle axis being substantially vertical.
11. The handle mechanism of claim 9, said lever arm extending above said substantially horizontal lever axis.
12. The handle mechanism of claim 11, including a spring biasing said latch lever toward a latched position.
13. The handle mechanism of claim 11, said latch lever including a cable arm defining a slot for holding a cable below said lever axis.

14. The handle mechanism of claim 7, including a rib on said handle arm and a protrusion on said lever arm, said rib and said protrusion engaging to inhibit rotation of said lever without movement of said handle.

15. The handle mechanism of claim 7, said handle axis being substantially vertical.

16. The handle mechanism of claim 7, said handle including a portion thereof in a path defined by movement of a portion of said latch lever in an unlatch direction.

17. The handle mechanism of claim 7, said lever arm having a laterally extending protrusion moved in a path in an unlatch direction, and said handle arm having a laterally extending rib disposed in said path in said unlatch direction.

18. An automobile door handle mechanism comprising:  
a door handle having a handle arm;  
a latch lever rotatable in an unlatch direction to unlatch a door, said latch lever having a lever arm engaged with said handle arm for rotation thereof in said unlatch direction by movement of said handle; and  
said handle arm at least partly overlapping said lever arm in said unlatch direction for restricting movement of said latch lever in said unlatch direction without movement of said handle.

19. The door handle mechanism of claim 18, said handle arm having a protrusion overlapping a portion of said latch lever in said unlatch direction.

20. The door handle mechanism of claim 18, said latch lever having a protrusion overlapped by said handle arm in said unlatch direction.